

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

EB-08 /085 W

-----060979 201322Z /45

O 201225Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 770 IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

UNCLAS PRETORIA 1586

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUZOREWA'S RETURN

1. UPON HIS RETURN FROM OVERSEAS THIS WEEKEND, BISHOP MUZOREWA WAS MET BY ACROWD OF SUPPORTERS ESTIMATED BY PRESS TO NUMBER 200,000. MUZOREWA ADDRESSED THE CROWD AT THE HIGHFIELDS TOWNSHIP NEAR SALISBURY. PRESS ACCOUNTS SAY THAT BLACKS CAME FROM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO ATTEND THE RALLY, WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY INTENDED AS A MESSAGE TO THE UK AND US THAT THE COUNTRY IS BEING TAKEN TO MAJORITY RULE THIS YEAR.

2. IN HIS ADDRESS, MUZROEWA MADE AN ATTACK ON ZAMBIA

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AND PRESIDENT KAUNDA. HE SAID IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO BUY SOAP, SUGAR AND EVEN BREAD AND THAT DESPITE KAUNDA'S " LOUDEST REVOLUTIONARY LANGUAGE", THE ROADS WERE STILL AS THE " COLONIAL MASTERS" LEFT THEM AND THE COUNTRY WAS FULL OF " BLOOD" SUCKING EXPATRIATES". HE ADDED, " IF ZIMBABWE IS GOING TO BE LEAD BY THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO LEAD ZAMBIA, THEN I AM VERY SORRY."

3. MUZOREWA ALSO SAID THAT HE FELT THE US AND UK WANTED TO RECOGNIZE THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. HE SAID HE WASN'T WORRIED BY THE OAU OR UN REJECTIONS BECAUSE " NEXT YEAR" ZIMBABWE WILL BE A MEMBER AND THEY WILL HAVE CHANGED THEIR MINDS.

2. IN THIS CONNECTION, ON MARCH 15, THE ARGUS AFRICA SERVICE PUBLISHED IN SEVERAL OF ITS DAILY PAPERS A POLL IT HAD CARRIED OUT IN THE MIDLANDS AREA AROUND GWELO AND QUE QUE. THE POLL WAS MADE OF 120 BLACKS FROM A VARIETY OF PROFESSIONS AND BACKGROUNDS. THE RESULTS WERE 55.8 PERCENT WOULD VOTE FOR MUZOREWA IN AN ELECTION. 19.1 PERCENT WOULD VOTE FOR NKOMO, 16.6 PERCENT FOR SITHOLE, 5 PERCENT FOR MUGABE AND 3.3 PERCENT FOR CHIRAU. THE POLLSTERS RECOGNIZED THAT THE RESULTS MIGHT BE DIFFERENT IN OTHER AREAS BUT SAID ONLY THE MIDLANDS HAS A LIBERAL MIX OF SHONA AND NDEBELE AND, THEREFORE, REPRESENTS A " NATIONAL AVERAGE."
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PINT, PDEV, SOPN, RH, (MUZOREWA, ABEL)
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